GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1579
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
PACKAGE FOR SUGAR INDUSTRY OF MAHARASHTRA
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Rs. 1,340 crores proposal to the Union Government for a relief package to sugar industry in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the problems faced by the sugar industry in the State;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the outstanding dues of the sugar farmers and labourers with co-operative and other sugar mills after the last crushing season, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government for permitting the State Government to raise Additional Open Market Borrowing (AOMB) for the following:

(i) Financial help towards fixed costs to the mills which are unable to undertake crushing during 2004-05 sugar season	- Rs. 160 crores
(ii) Financial help for enabling Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of cane payments for the sugar Season 2003-04 and earlier seasons.	- Rs. 640 crores
(iii) Wage arrears of 2003-04 and earlier seasons plus wage arrears of 2004-05 season	- Rs. 540 crores
Total:	- Rs.1,340 crores

As per the letter of the Maharashtra Government, the main problem faced by the Sugar Industry are steep drop in production and productivity of cane and sugar resulting from scanty rainfall during the year 2002-03 followed by severe drought during the year 2003-04.

(c): The proposal of the Maharashtra Government for AOMB is under consideration.

(d): Outstanding dues of farmers with sugar mills are given at Annexure-I. No statistics regarding dues of sugar mills to labourers are maintained by the Central Government.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1579 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.3.2005 IN THE LOK SABHA

STATEMENT SHOWING STATE-WISE & SECTOR WISE POSITION OF CANE PRICE ARREARS AS ON 31.12.2004 FOR CANE PURCHASED DURING THE CURRENT SUGAR SEASON 2004-05.

(PROVISIONAL)
(Figures in lakh Rs.)

STATE/ZONE	PUBLIC SECTOR	COOPERATIVE SECTOR	PRIVATE SECTOR	TOTAL
PUNJAB	0.00	732.86	1177.83	1910.69
HARYANA	0.00	1661.27	2438.97	4100.24
RAJASTHAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
U. P.	3198.20	6428.23	9504.80	19131.23
UTTARANCHAL	82.28	920.00	1664.77	2667.05
M. P.	0.00	23.10	60.40	83.50
GUJARAT	0.00	3059.65	0.00	3059.65
MAHARASHTRA	0.00	14174.90	1106.43	15281.33
BIHAR	0.00	0.00	2273.64	2273.64
ASSAM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A. P.	382.45	90.41	4184.31	4657.17
KARNATAKA	1441.00	6087.00	11441.00	18969.00
TAMIL NADU	408.49	2200.57	3903.98	6513.04
KERALA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ORISSA	0.00	10.38	196.07	206.45
WEST BENGAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PONDICHERRY	0.00	123.40	0.00	123.40
GOA	0.00	146.98	0.00	146.98
NAGALAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	5512.42	35658.75	37952.20	79123.37